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Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
29 March-8 April 2004

Working methods of the Special Committee

Revised working paper submitted by Japan, the Republic of Korea, Thailand and Uganda regarding the working methods of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

(The provisions appearing in italics below were provisionally adopted by the Committee at its 2003 session. The wording in bold reflects changes made to the provisions set out in the previous working paper (A/AC.182/L.108/Rev.2).)

In response to a request made in accordance with paragraph 3 (e) of General Assembly resolution **58/248** of **23 December 2003**, the Special Committee agreed on the following **points** to improve its working methods and enhance its efficiency:

(a) Any delegation wishing to submit a new proposal is encouraged:

(i) To bear in mind the mandate of the Special Committee as set out in General Assembly resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, and to ascertain, to the extent possible, that the new proposal would not entail the same work being done by other bodies on the same subject, provided that the rights of delegations to make proposals should not be affected;

(ii) To submit the proposal as far in advance of the session as possible.

(b) A delegation submitting a proposal is encouraged:

(i) To request the Committee to conduct a preliminary evaluation as to its necessity and appropriateness at the first meeting of the Committee;

(ii) After an exchange of views is held on its proposal, to assess the priority and the urgency of the proposal in comparison with other proposals discussed in the Committee and to consider, where appropriate, the postponement or biennialization of the consideration of its proposal;

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(iii) After the proposal has been discussed at reasonable length, to ask the Committee, where appropriate, to suggest whether the discussion on the proposal should be continued, taking into account the possibility of reaching a **consensus** in future **in the light of paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995**;

(c) The Special Committee is determined:

(i) To ensure that the meeting is conducted as efficiently as possible in order to minimize the **unnecessary use** of time and resources, including allocated conference services;

(ii) To accord priority to the consideration of those areas on which general agreement is possible, bearing in mind **paragraph 2** of General Assembly resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975;

(iii) To consider, where appropriate, the question of the duration of its next session with a view to making an appropriate recommendation to the General Assembly;

(iv) To review, as and when necessary, other ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency, including ways and means of improving the procedure for the adoption of its report.